Application No.: 10/516,733 In Response to Final Office Action of June 17, 2008

Amendment dated December 17, 2008

**REMARKS** 

Docket No.: 022290.0122PTUS

The Office Action mailed June 17, 2008 was reviewed and the comments of the

Patent and Trademark Office were considered.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowance of Claims 1-4 and 8-14. Further,

Claims 5-7, 16-23 and 26 were objected to by the Examiner, and have been amended.

Support for the amended claims may be found in the previously presented claims. Claim 15

has been cancelled. As such, Claims 1 - 14, 16 - 24 and 26 are pending in the application.

This amendment changes or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of

all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain

under examination in the application, are presented, with an appropriate defined status

identifier.

**CLAIM OBJECTIONS** 

Examiner has objected to Claims 5-7, 16-23 and 26 either because of their

dependence on rejected claims or because of reasons stated below.

Examiner objected to Claim 5 stating the phrase "L-glutamic homopolymer,"

specifically "L-glutamic" is not complete and the better phrase would be "glutamic acid."

Examiner states this issue also applies to Claim 6-7. As such, Applicant has amended

Claims 5 – 7 as per the Examiner's suggestion to add the word "acid." Applicant therefore

respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw his objection.

Examiner has objected to claim 26 on grammatical grounds, suggesting replacing "the

n+m" with "the value of n+m" or "the sum of n+m." Applicant has amended Claim 26 to

add the words "sum of" and therefore requests the Examiner withdraw his objection.

7

3694592

Application No.: 10/516,733 Docket No.: 022290.0122PTUS

In Response to Final Office Action of June 17, 2008 Amendment dated December 17, 2008

**CLAIM REJECTIONS** 

Examiner has rejected Claim 15 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out

and distinctly claim the subject matter. Applicant thanks the Examiner for suggesting

alternative langue for the claim, and as such has amended Claim 15. Applicant further

cancelled Claim 16, as the limitations of Claim 16 are now contained within Claim 15.

Claims 17 – 23 have been amended to depend upon Claim 15. Applicant therefore requests

the Examiner withdraw his rejection.

Examiner has rejected Claim 24 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out

and distinctly claim the subject matter. Applicant amended this claim to better conform with

the recommendations of the Examiner and requests the Examiner withdraw his rejection.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, Applicant believes this Application is in condition for

allowance.

Applicant submits concurrently herewith a request for a three-month extension of

time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and the accompanying fee. Applicants also submit

concurrently a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and the

accompanying fee. Please charge our Credit Card in the amount of \$1,920.00 covering the

fees set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) and 1.17(a)(3). A Credit Card Payment Form SB-2038 is

enclosed from an authorized cardholder. In the event that any additional extensions of time

are necessary to prevent the abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of

time are petitioned. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any

8

3694592

Application No.: 10/516,733 Docket No.: 022290.0122PTUS

In Response to Final Office Action of June 17, 2008

Amendment dated December 17, 2008

additional fees that may be required in conjunction with this submission to Deposit Account Number 50-2228, referencing matter number 022290.0122PTUS from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 17, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Lacy L. Kolo, Ph.D.

Registration No.: 55,340 PATTON BOGGS LLP

8484 Westpark Drive, 9th Floor

McLean, Virginia 22102

(703) 744-8000

(703) 744-8001 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicants